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ECONOMIC
AND
SOCIAL COUNCIL



LIMITED
CLADES/WG.1/L.1
For participants only
8 September 1971

ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR LATIN AMERICA
MEETING ON MODERN DOCUMENTATION TECHNIQUES

Santiago, Chile, 27 to 30 September 1971

PROVISIONAL AGENDA, TITLES OF DOCUMENTS
AND HISTORICAL NOTE

71-8-2313

A. Organization of the Meeting

Documents.

CLADES will present four papers at the Meeting: one on the establishment of a regional network of documentation centres and three on descriptors and thesauri. In addition, another ten papers have been received from participants and the titles or summaries of ten more. In all, twenty four documents have been received so far. Generally speaking, works relating to item 1 of the provisional agenda will be considered as information documents, the rest as working documents.

Organization of work

Once the officials of the Meeting have been elected, they will set about distributing the work between the main Rapporteur and the Rapporteurs for each of the agenda items, to facilitate the preparation of the final report of the meeting as it proceeds.

Working groups

Such working groups will be established as are considered necessary to deal with the different items of the final agenda.

B. Objectives

The meeting is intended to bring together documentalists, systems analysts and programmers, on the one hand, and representatives of interested bodies, economists, sociologists and other users of documentation, on the other, so that they may:

- (a) Discuss the most modern, rapid and effective means of acquiring, processing and distributing economic and social information and documentation;
- (b) Decide to adopt common norms for the analysis in depth of documents, questions of terminology, preparation of lists of descriptors and thesauri and other matters relating to the standardization of documentation and information activities in Latin América;
- (c) Establish principles and norms for the regional co-ordination of documentation and information centres and the establishment of networks of centres.

It is hoped that the discussions held at the Meeting will make a significant contribution to the Second Development Decade in the sphere of regional information and documentation.

C. Provisional Agenda

27 September

Morning

10. a.m. Enrolment of participants and distribution of documents.
- 11 a.m. Opening of the Meeting by Mr. Carlos Quintana, Executive Secretary of ECLA, and Mr. Victor Barberis, President of the Chilean National Commission for Scientific and Technological Research (CONICYT).
- 11:30 a.m. Election of President, Vice-President and Rapporteur.
Adoption of the agenda.
Organization of work.

Afternoon

- 2:30 p.m. Agenda item 1: Information systems and documentation centres.
- 1.1 Economic and social sphere.
1.2 Scientific and technological sphere.

28 September

Morning

- 10 a.m. Agenda item 2: Division of the work of documentation and exchange of information
- 2.1 National information networks in Latin America
2.2 Exchange of economic and social information in a Latin American network.

Afternoon

- 2:30 p.m. Agenda item 3: Data processing and retrieval techniques.
- 3.1 Theory and logic
3.2 Electronic techniques and their use in Latin America.

29 September

Morning

9:30 a.m. Agenda item 4: The language of information

- 4.1 Techniques for the preparation and use of descriptors and thesauri.
- 4.2 The OECD macrothesaurus.
- 4.3 Latin American lists of descriptors.
- 4.4 Towards a Spanish thesaurus for the economic and social sciences.

Afternoon

2:30 p.m. Continuation of the discussion of item 4.

30 September

Morning

9:30 a.m. Visit to documentation and data processing centres.

Afternoon

3 p.m. Agenda item 5: Conclusions, recommendations and final report. Close of the meeting.

D. Provisional list of document titles in
relation to relevant agenda items

Item 1: Information systems and documentation centres

- 1.1 Economic and social sphere.
- 1.2 Scientific and technological sphere.

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- 1.1 Isabel Forero de Moreno. "Objetivos del Centro de Documentación del Departamento Nacional de Planeación". Colombia.
- 1.1 Regina Helena Tavares. "Perfil do Serviço de Documentação do Centro Latino Americano de Pesquisas em Ciências Sociais". Brazil.
- 1.1 Alberto Rioseco Vásquez, Rafael Cruz Fabres and Hugo Andrés Bustos Pérez. "Organización del Centro de Documentación e Investigaciones Jurídico-Económicas". University of Chile. Chile.
- 1.1 Salvador Dides Muñoz, Hugo Ardiles Orrego and Carlos Alberto Padilla Iturra. "Informe de presentación del Centro de Documentación". University of the North, Antofagasta. Chile.
- 1.1 CINTERFOR. "Servicio de documentación e informaciones de CINTERFOR"- Uruguay.
- 1.2 Carlos Victor Penna. "Seminario sobre Estructuras Nacionales de Información Científica y Técnica". UNESCO, France.
- 1.2 Betty Johnson de Vodanović and Ana María Prat. "Bases para estructurar el sistema nacional de información y documentación de Chile (SIDOC/CHILE)". Chile.
- 1.2 José Ramón Pérez Alvarez-Osorio. "Un sistema de información científica y técnica en lengua española a base de resúmenes". Spain.

Item 2: Division of the work of documentation and exchange of information.

- 2.1 National information networks in Latin America.
- 2.2 Exchange of economic and social information in a Latin American network.

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- 2.1 Angela Hernández de Caldas. "Red colombiana de información y documentación económica". Colombia.
- 2.2 Rafael Rodríguez Delgado. "CLADES and a future information and documentation network for Latin America". Chile.

Item 3: Data processing and retrieval techniques

- 3.1 Theory and logic.
- 3.2 Electronic techniques and their use in Latin America.

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- 3.1 Raúl Augusto Hernández. "Reservorios de conocimientos teóricos en sociología por métodos lógicos". Argentina.
- 3.1 Win Crowther. "Structure and flexibility in classification schemes for documentation; A proposal for Latin America". ECLA Transport Programme. Chile.
- 3.2 Rafael Rodríguez de Cora and Juan Morandé O'Reilly. "La computadora y sus sistemas y programas aplicados a la documentación". Chile.
- 3.2 María Rosa Capo. "Técnicas electrónicas de recuperación y elaboración de la información. Situación de América Latina". Uruguay.
- 3.2 Gregorio Perichinsky. "Archivo y procesamiento de extractos de publicaciones periódicas". Argentina.
- 3.2 ECLA, Public Administration Unit and Natural Resources and Energy Programme. "Investigación operativa aplicada a modelos matemáticos de cuencas hidrográficas".

Item 4: The language of information.

- 4.1 Techniques for the preparation and use of descriptors and thesauri.
- 4.2 The OECD macrothesaurus.
- 4.3 Latin American lists of descriptors.
- 4.4 Towards a Spanish thesaurus for the economic and social sciences.

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- 4.1 ECLA/CLADES. "Use of descriptors and thesauri". Chile.
- 4.2 Jean Viet. "Liste Commune de Descripteurs et Macrothesaurus en matière de développement économique et social". France.
- 4.3 Ermelinda Acerenza. "Indice de términos económicos". Uruguay.
- 4.3 Hans Gravenhorst and Lucas A Delaflor. "Guía de investigaciones de la Universidad de Buenos Aires 1968 - Tesauro". Argentina.
- 4.3 Arturo Parada Kreft and Alberto Puga Seguel. "Elaboración de un tesauro para las ciencias jurídicas". Chile.
- 4.3 María Angélica Moreno de Peralta. "Análisis de literatura técnica. Experiencias en el Centro de Información del Comité de Investigaciones Tecnológicas - INTEC-CORFO". Chile.
- 4.4 ECLA/CLADES "Economic and social terms in the OECD Aligned List of Descriptors and their translation into Spanish". Chile.
- 4.4 ECLA/CLADES. "Catalogue of Directories on the Reference Library of CLADES". Chile.

E. Historical note

In March 1969, Mr. B.J. Udink, Minister of Economic Co-operation, of the Netherlands, offered to finance the establishment of a Centre for economic and social documentation which would fulfil information and research functions for ECLA and ILPES and would satisfy the needs of the governments of the region and of research workers all over the world. With this end in view, the Government of the Netherlands offered several generous donations to defray the cost of erecting a building, purchasing equipment, recruiting experts and maintaining the Centre for the first two years of its existence.

In the course of 1969, ECLA carried out several preliminary studies for the establishment of the Documentation Centre 1/, prior to the feasibility study entrusted to the Dutch expert, Dr. Verhoeven. 2/ A meeting of experts was convened in 1970 to examine the feasibility of establishing regional networks of information and documentation centres.

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- 1/ ECLA, Centro regional de información y documentación para América Latina, Informe primero, 28 February 1969. Informe segundo, 3 November 1969. Informe tercero, 10 April, 1970.
ECLA, "La recepción y transmisión de información en las empresas", Information document No. 3 presented at the Meeting of Experts on Administration of Public Enterprises in Latin America and the Caribbean, Santiago, Chile, 17-22 November 1969.
- 2/ Dr. F.R.J. Verhoeven, Feasibility study for the establishment of a regional information, documentation and research centre, Part I: General Survey, Part II; Information Annexes, (ECLA, Santiago, 1970).

/The meeting

The meeting also examined Dr. Verhoeven's report and stressed the importance of the establishment of a regional documentation and reference centre for the sectoral and over-all development of Latin America. 3/

As a result of the above mentioned activities and studies, the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (Centro Latinoamericano de Documentación Económica y Social - CLADES) began to operate in ECLA on 1 January 1971.

At the fourteenth session of ECLA, the Centre presented a document on its background, organization, programmes and plan of work. 4/

The Acting Director of the Centre made a speech at one of the plenary meetings of the session. 5/

In another Conference document dealing with the rationalization of the regional structures of the United Nations, consideration was given to the structure for economic and social information and documentation, mention

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- 3/ The following documents were presented at the Meeting of Experts on Documentation held by ECLA on 25 and 26 September 1970: Freiherr von Ledebur, Working paper on organization of regional networks of information and documentation and their relation to the world networks; Rafael Rodríguez Delgado, Model of a regional information and documentation network for Latin America; Nota sobre centros regionales y nacionales de documentación en América Latina. Subsequently, on 30 September, 1970, the Informe sobre los debates y recomendaciones was published in Spanish only, the conclusions and recommendations of which, in English, appear in Part II of Dr. Verhoeven's study Information Annexes.
- 4/ ECLA, Background, organization and programmes of the Latin American Centre for Economic and Social Documentation (Conference document E/CN.12/899).
- 5/ Twelfth plenary meeting, 4 May 1971 (afternoon).

/being made

being made of the role that CLADES should play in establishing an integrated system of basic information to support development activities. 6/

In a third Conference document, stress was laid on the importance of information on environmental problems. 7/

At its fourteenth session, the Commission adopted an important resolution on economic and social documentation, which stresses the need for the Latin American countries to have up-to-date national systems of economic, social, scientific, statistical and technological information. 8/

CLADES has convened the present Meeting on Modern Documentation Techniques in order to follow up the above decisions and in the light of the work it is carrying out in respect of standardization, terminology and co-ordination of efforts in the field of documentation and information for regional development.

6/ ECLA, ECLA's future role in the rationalization of the regional structures of the United Nations (Conference document E/CN.12/895), pages 29 to 32.

7/ ECLA, The human environment in Latin America (E/CN.12/898), pages 16 and 17.

8/ Resolution 303 (XIV). Economic and social documentation 160th meeting, 6 May 1971.